

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 to 11 are pending in the application; claim 2 has been canceled.

Drawings

A replacement sheet Fig. 2 is submitted herewith showing the required labeling as "Prior Art".

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 2, 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Speier* (US 6,363,896).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 2 and further has been amended to better define the way the at least one drive wheel is mounted on the collar. The arrangement on the circumferential surface of the collar is shown in Fig. 3.

Claim 1 as amended is not anticipated by *Speier* as *Speier* shows the stator or outer element 111 that forms the drive wheel (integrated teeth 12) to be seated on the radial outer circumferential surface of the rotor or inner element 110. The collar 119 rest with an end face against the rotor 110. The radial outer circumferential surface of the collar 119 does not receive the drive wheel.

Claim 1 as amended is therefore not anticipated by the cited prior art reference.

Claim 1 is also not obvious in view of *Speier* as there is no suggestion to arrange the drive wheel 111, 12 axially displaced on the collar 119, in particular because the prior art teaches that the parts 110, 111 are designed as flat disks that have plane ends covered by plane covers 134, 135. The advantages of this arrangement are set forth in col. 3, lines 40-67.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims 1, 2, 6 pursuant to 35 USC 102 are therefore respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 3-5, 7-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 3 has been amended to include the features of claim 1 and should thus be

allowable together with its dependent claims.

Claim 7 has been amended by incorporating therein the features of claim 1 and should thus be allowable together with its dependent claims.

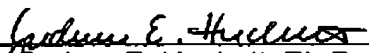
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on April 11, 2005.


Ms. Gudrun E. Hockett, Ph.D.
Patent Agent, Registration No. 35,747
Lönsstr. 53
42289 Wuppertal
GERMANY
Telephone: +49-202-257-0371
Facsimile: +49-202-257-0372
gudrun.draudt@t-online.de

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Encl.: time extension petition (1 sheet); PTO-2038 (1 sheet)
replacement drawing sheet/s Fig. 2 (1 sheet/s)